

### Handout F-3: Preschooler

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#### *Sergei*

Sergei is five-years-old. His best friend is having his birthday party at Head Start today. Sergei is so proud that his friend asked him to sit right up next to him at the table. He loves parties, but he hates that he can't eat cake and ice cream like his friends. Sergei has diabetes so he can't have foods with a lot of sugar.

Sometimes Sergei gets so mad that he has a little candy when his parents aren't looking. He thinks maybe that's why he has diabetes. Sergei's parents taught his teacher how to do the fingerstick test. He didn't used to mind it, but lately Sergei has been feeling embarrassed when his friends watch. It's not so bad at home because his parents do the fingerstick and give him his insulin shots when his friends aren't around. It's his three-year-old sister that's really had problems with her temper tantrums at home.

1. What is **Sergei** doing in his development as a preschooler? How might Sergei understand his diabetes? What concerns, fears, and questions might he have?
2. What are **Sergei's parents** doing in their development? How might Sergei's chronic condition affect his parents' development? What concerns, fears, and questions might they have?
3. What is **Sergei's sister** doing in her development? How might Sergei's chronic condition affect his sister's development? What concerns, fears, and questions might she have?
4. How can **Head Start** help Sergei, his classmates, parents, and sister in their development?